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Mulberry Missionary Baptist Association



v. 1. 1844	v. 11. 1895
v. 2. 1856	v. 12. 1896
v. 3. 1873	v. 13. 1897
v. 4. 1879	v. 14. 1898
v. 5. 1881	v. 15. 1899
v. 6. 1885	v. 16. 1900
v. 7. 1886	
v. 8. 1887	
v. 9. 1889	
v. 10. 1892	

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

MULBERRY MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD AT

Shady Grove Church, Bibb County, Alabama,

September 18 and 19, 1895.

OFFICERS.

J. M. LANGSTON, Moderator	Six Mile, Ala.
R. M. HONEYCUTT, Clerk	Clanton, Ala.

The next session will be held with New Salem Church, two miles west of Strauburg, in Chilton County, Alabama, on Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1896.

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THE BANNER JOB SHOP

1895

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Devotional Exercises.
 2. Organization.
 3. Invite visiting members to seats.
 4. Open the door for churches to unite with us.
 5. Invite correspondence.
 6. Appoint special committees.
 7. Miscellaneous business.
 8. Call for reports of standing committees.
 9. Appoint standing committees.
 10. Appoint time and place of next meeting.
 11. Miscellaneous business.
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NAMES AND POSTOFFICES OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

J. M. LANGSTON.....	Six Mile, Ala.
R. M. HONEYCUTT.....	Clanton, Ala.
J. M. GOTHARD.....	Jemison, Ala.
J. E. CHAMPION.....	Clear Creek, Ala.
D. A. SEALE.....	Montevallo, Ala.
S. D. POSEY.....	Randolph, Ala.
L. B. FOUNDS.....	Jemison, Ala.
W. A. WOOD.....	Lilly, Ala.
W. C. RIGGINS.....	Strasburg, Ala.
W. D. MARTIN.....	Strasburg, Ala.
SUTHERN SMITHERMAN.....	Six Mile, Ala.
A. L. FOSHEE.....	Strasburg, Ala.
W. H. WOOD.....	Clanton, Ala.
GEORGE W. FREEMAN.....	Randolph, Ala.

LICENSED MINISTERS.

J. J. LOWERY.....	Clear Creek, Ala.
A. C. CLASCOCK.....	Randolph, Ala.
I. N. LANGSTON.....	Six Mile, Ala.

MINUTES.

The Sixty-eighth Annual session of the Mulberry Baptist Association was held with Shady Grove church, Bibb county, Ala., on the 18th and 19th of September, 1895. At 11 o'clock a. m., on the 18th, the people assembled together. Brother L. B. Pounds, who had been appointed to preach the introductory sermon, not being present, Brother F. M. Wood was requested to preach the introductory sermon and did so from the 18th chapter of St. Matthew and 3rd verse: "And said verily I say unto you, except ye be converted and become as little children ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven."

A recess was then given for dinner, after which the delegates assembled in the church and the Association was called to order by Elder J. M. Langston, the former Moderator, who then appointed Brethren G. E. Mize and J. M. Langston, Jr., a committee to read the letters from the churches; the names of the churches were then called and the letters read and names of delegates enrolled as follows:

Antioch Church—J. M. Langston, Sutton Smitherman, G. W. Freeman, A. J. Woolley, I. N. Langston, W. J. Wallace, David Jackson, W. N. Lawrence,

Enon Church—A. C. Crews, D. Johnson*, J. E. Jones, F. M. Arnold.

Liberty Hill Church—W. M. Wood, W. D. Z. Foshee, Felix Elland.

New Salem Church—W. G. Riggins, T. G. Williams, J. W. Maddox*, G. W. Sorrell, G. W. Hill*, Thomas Childres, LaFayette Vines*, Joseph Burnett*.

Providence Church—R. M. Honeycutt, J. E. Champion*, W. H. Shaw*, W. A. Sims*, A. J. Lowery*, H. W. Houlditch, W. R. Houlditch.

Mineral Springs Church—I. N. Martin, James Littleton, J. H. Benson*.

Shady Grove Church—Z. L. Belcher, Jackson Smitherman, Davis Wallace, Jesse Smitherman, John Smitherman*.

Pleasant Hill Church—S. E. Cleckler*, Madison Hubbard*, J. B. Lewis, W. P. Scott*.

Collins Chapel Church—W. A. Mims, A. P. Bean*, Joseph Littleton.

Mars Hill Church—S. D. Posey, Thomas Watson*, C. L. Langston, A. J. Pate*, J. P. Gentry, E. G. Coffey*.

Center Hill Church—J. H. Martin*, J. B. Webb*, J. H. Wadell*, Thomas Cleckler*.

Macedonia Church—Y. O. Freeman*, J. D. Glass*, S. E. Waldrup*, A. Glass, W. M. Merchant*.

Pleasant Grove Church—W. R. Dawson, A. J. Lee*, L. B. Pounds, James Franklin*, A. Patterson*.

Strasburg Church—G. S. Collins, J. J. Lightsey*, J. W. Moore*.

Rehoboth Church—J. J. Hicks, J. T. Collins, A. W. Gentry, D. L. Smitherman, M. F. Lawley, Monroe Merchant*.

The Association then proceeded to the election of a Modera-

* Absentees.

tor and Clerk by ballot, which resulted in the re-election of J. M. Langston Moderator and R. M. Honeycutt Clerk. The Moderator then made some very appropriate remarks, after which business was taken up as follows:

Brother Sutton Smitherman was granted the privilege of giving an explanation of some confusion in Shady Grove church. Rules of decorum were then read. Visiting members were invited to seats with us. Open the door for churches to join our union.

Called for corresponding messengers. Received from Shelby Association F. M. Wood, J. W. Mitchell, Thomas Fancher; from Cahaba Association G. E. Mize. J. N. C. Brown; from Unity Association J. A. Anderson, S. M. Adams.

The Moderator then appointed the following special committees:

On Devotional Exercises—The Pastor and Deacons of Shady Grove church.

On Finance—J. P. Gentry, J. W. Wallace, David Smitherman.

On Nominations—W. G. Riggins, F. M. Arnold, Wiley Lawrence.

There being none of the Committee on Ministerial Education present the following brethren were appointed and requested to report at this meeting: J. J. Hicks, Adam Crews, T. G. Williams.

The Devotional Committee announced that I. N. Langston would conduct prayer and song service at 8.30 a. m. to-morrow.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was then read and, on motion to adopt, was discussed by L. B. Pounds, F. M. Woods, S. M. Adams and others. On motion, the discussion was laid over until to-morrow morning. The Association then adjourned.

MORNING SESSION.

Prayer and song service conducted by I. N. Langston according to arrangements. The Association was then called to order by the Moderator. The roll was then called and absentees marked (see table). Then the discussion of the temperance committee's report was finished, after which it was adopted as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance beg to report as follows: Temperance means moderation and your committee believes this would apply to us in all things right and proper for us to engage in. But intemperance in strong drink seems to be the leading evil with our young men, corrupting their morals and causing them to grow up in ignorance and crime. Brethren, we fail in suppressing this evil by depending on legislation alone. Legislation, moral and religious influence combined will be more effective. When we, as Christians, become temperate in all things

that is right and abstain from every appearance of evil we will have a greater influence. We see the temperance cause in some neighborhoods is abating for the want of religious influence. It is the mind of your committee that strong drink is an evil that Christians should not indulge in, and that the only safe-guard in regard to it is total abstinence from its use.

FELIX EILAND, *Chairman.*

After the adoption of the report a covenant was entered into by many that we will work and pray for the success of the temperance cause, after which the Association joined Brother F. M. Woods in special prayer for God's help in our cause of reform from the evil of strong drink.

The report of the committee on Ministerial Education was read and on motion to adopt was discussed by J. J. Hicks and others, then adopted as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We your committee on Ministerial Education make the following report: This subject is of importance. We have been negligent; the reading of the letters from the different churches show this. Brethren, common sense teaches us that we should untie our pastor's hands so they could devote their whole time to the reading and studying of the Word of God. We have experienced this by hearing ministers preach who have had the advantage of a collegiate education. Brethren, you know that a man prepared to do anything has all the advantage of those unprepared; let us wake up to a sense of duty, first see that our ministers whom we have already sent out to preach have opportunities to inform themselves; Christ never sent his Apostles out without an education. He taught them and then sent them out to preach. Christ organized the church. Upon whom rests the responsibility of preaching the gospel, is it the church? I say it is. Oh, Brethren, how can we as Christ's followers neglect such duties? When we send young ministers out to preach without being prepared then our work is a failure to a great extent. Preach means to teach, how can a man do this without being educated? Brethren, we, as different churches of the Mulberry Baptist Association, let us set new and determined resolutions that we never will send out any brother to preach until he is properly shod with the preparation of the gospel. I do not mean that all our work in the past has been a failure, we are thankful that we have so many good ministers that have made such progress in their ministerial work without the aid of the churches, but we must consider how far above this they might have been if the churches had discharged their duties. Let us think and pray that God may direct us right and forget not to use our means in the right way; we are too careless about what God has given us, everything we have God gave to us and has told in His word how to use it, but we, in a great many ways, abuse what He has given

us. . The same old story and nothing done ; it is no use in making vows and not performing, but we will have to do something on this line if we as churches make a success.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. Hicks, *Chairman.*

The Association then adjourned one hour for dinner, after which business was taken up again.

Committee on Sabbath-schools read their report and after discussion by A. Glass and others was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee on Sabbath-schools, beg leave to report the following: We are glad to say that we feel sure that much good is being done in Sabbath-school work. It is a place where all of God's children can meet and take part; we are happy to say that some have been brought to Christ by teaching God's word in the Sabbath-school. We have been greatly blessed many times in our work at Sabbath-school, the brethren and sisters feeling that God was with them in their prayers. It is a place to help young people to sing hymns of praise to God, and teaching them the gospel which is our duty. Brethren, we would be glad to know that there was a Sabbath-school in every church and more workers in the cause. Brethren, it will cause you to read your Bible if you attend Sabbath-school and to know your duty to others and to God; how much more family religion we will enjoy when we go to Sabbath-school every Sunday, meet in God's house in God's name. I pray that the time is near when God's children will wake up to love Him with all their heart, soul, mind and strength; then we can love our neighbors as ourselves. We feel that God's word is the best thing we could give to any one to read, and parents should take their children to Sabbath-school that they may read and hear it read. We hope to hear our ministers of the gospel talk up for more Sabbath-schools and let them run from December to December. We feel greatly revived in the Sabbath-school work.

Respectfully submitted,

ALEX. C. GLASSCOCK, *Chairman.*

The report of the Committee on State, Home and Foreign Missions was next read and on motion to adopt was discussed by Sutton Smitherman and others then adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your committee on General Missions, including State, Home and Foreign, submit the following report: State missions is that work carried on by our denomination through the State Board, whose aim has been, so far, to establish churches in great

places of destitution. That object having been accomplished to a great extent the Board is endeavoring to bring up the waste places and strengthen our weak forces by placing good men in the field, such as Ray, Glenn and Burnes, whose business is to travel and preach to the people the doctrines of the Bible and instruct them along the line of denominational work, also the Board is doing a good work in some associations through missionary colporteurs. May the good work go on until all destitute in the State of Alabama shall be supplied. Our towns and cities are daily flooded with a foreign population that are unchristianized. Their influence is far-reaching, and unless we Christianize them they will heathenize us, and especially our children. Not until our State work is thorough and all our churches are educated up to their duty along this line can we have the success in other mission work as is desired. A development of our own State work lies underneath the great work God has given His people. Home Missions is that part of our Master's work that the churches in convention have committed to the Home Board. Located at Atlanta, Ga., it gathers funds from the several Southern States composing the Southern Baptist Convention, and supplies destitute places in the bounds of the convention and Cuba. Mr. I. T. Tichenor, a good consecrated man of God is corresponding secretary. The work done and results of this man of God is great. Foreign Missions is the sending of men by denominations to preach the gospel in the heathen and Catholic countries. We have them in South America, Africa, Italy, China, Japan, men and women who have given their lives to the Lord's work. The great commission given by our lord was, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." It was to begin at Jerusalem. The blessed Lord had provided there a little church of eleven members, which, on the day of Pentecost, grew to a large and strong one, somewhere between three and five thousand members. After they had received the promised power we find her sending out preachers in all parts of the country. First, Philip goes to the Samaritans; Peter to the Gentiles in his own country, (in the case of Cornelius;) Paul and others to all the country around them. Jerusalem seems to be headquarters for them. We find them in some places actually drawing on one church for the support of another. Now, brethren, this great commission comes to us to-day. "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, he that believeth not shall be damned." Matt. 28:15-16 Will we heed this command of our Lord or not? Some may say I cannot go, neither could all the brethren at Jerusalem go. But the great commission was theirs all the same. All cannot go, but all can help send some one else. 1st. Your committee recommend that our pastors preach more on the subject of missions. 2nd. That the brotherhood read up on this subject. 3rd. That our churches adopt a systematical plan of giving for this work.

S. SMITHERMAN, *Chairman.*

The committee on Home Religion read their report and on motion to adopt was discussed by S. D. Posey and others. Adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME RELIGION.

We, your Committee on Home Religion, dear brethren, can say that we thank God that home religion is progressing. We believe that home religion is being taught by God's word more around family altars than ever before. We also believe that singing God's praise is being taught more than ever before. We believe that home religion should be practiced by all Christians who are heads of families; and we earnestly request every representative of this body to urge upon their churches who have never begun this good work to begin it at once.

S. D. POSEY, *Chairman*.

The Committee on Finance made the following report which was adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Received from the churches for Minutes.....	\$27.30
“ “ “ “ “ Foreign Missions	2.50
“ “ “ “ “ Orphan's Home.	8.00—\$37.80

J. P. GENTRY, *Chairman*.

The committee on Orphan's Home read their report which was adopted. The report has been mislaid or lost.

There was a collection taken up for the benefit of the Orphan's Home, which amounted to \$4.50, with instructions to send to Brother Stewart.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, 1st. That this Association tender our sincere thanks to the people of Shady Grove church and vicinity for kindness and hospitality extended to us during our stay here.

Resolved, 2nd. That the Clerk superintend the printing and distributing of 600 copies of the Minutes of this Association, and that he receive ten dollars for his services.

I. N. LANGSTON.

The committee on nominations made the following report which was adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your Committee on Nominations, offer the following as our report: We recommend that the next session of the Mulberry Association be held with New Salem church on Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1896. We further recommend R. M. Honeycutt preach the introductory sermon; G. W. Freeman, alternate. We further recommend as delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention L. B. Pounds; alternate, A. L. Foshee.

W. G. RIGGINS, *Chairman*.

The Moderator then announced the following standing committees:

On Sabbath Schools—W. H. Shaw, Z. W. Langston.

On Temperance and Prohibition—W. E. Riggins, J. E.

Jones.

On Missions, State, Home and Foreign—R. M. Honeycutt,

J. J. Lowery.

On Ministerial Education—A. Glass, W. Y. Nix.

On Home Religion—W. A. Mims, T. M. Driver.

On Periodicals—L. B. Pounds, D. A. Seale.

On Orphans' Home—G. W. Freeman, Martin Franklin.

The Association, having finished the business, adjourned.

J. M. LANGSTON, *Moderator*.

R. M. HONEYCUTT, *Clerk*.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.—First District.

The next meeting of the First District will be held with Rehoboth church, commencing on Wednesday before the first Sunday in August, 1896. Introductory sermon preached by Sutton Smitherman, J. M. Langston, alternate.

SUBJECTS.

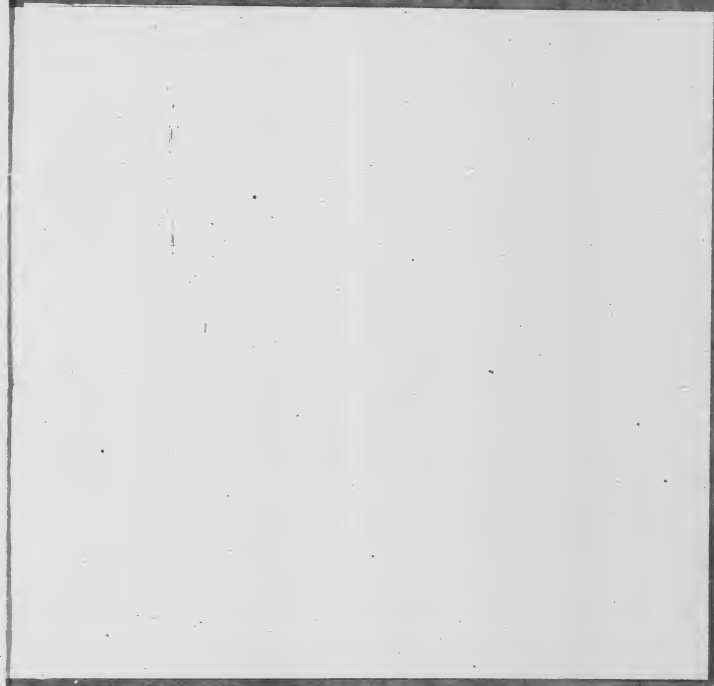
- 1st. What is the duty of pastor to the church? Opened by A. Glass and H. L. Hicks.
- 2nd. What is the duty of church to pastor? Opened by G. W. Freeman and J. E. Jones.
- 3rd. Has the gospel been preached to all nations, if so when? Opened by A. Glass and H. L. Hicks.
- 4th. Upon whom rests the responsibility of preaching the gospel? Opened by G. W. Freeman and J. E. Jones

Second District.

The next meeting of the Second District will meet with Providence church Friday before the 3rd Sunday in July, 1896. Introductory sermon by A. L. Foshee; W. A. Wood, alternate.

SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION.

- 1st. Is it the duty of every converted person to be identified with the church, if so what are the benefits to be derived from such identity? W. A. Mims and J. H. Martin to open the discussion.
 - 2nd. Can a church organization, according to the New Testament plan, be kept up in this our day without any finance, if not whose duty is it to furnish said finance? T. G. Williams and Felix Eiland to open the discussion.
 - 3rd. Miscellaneous questions.
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SUBJECTS.

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STATISTICS OF MULBERRY MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION 1895

CHURCH	COUNTY	PASTOR	CLERK	CLERK'S P.O.	Membership last Reported	Inc'r by					Dec. by	Membership Present	Preaching Sabbaths	Minutes	Missions	Orphan's Home	Pastor's Salary	SUNDAY SCHOOL		Officers	Pupils	
						Baptism	Letter	Restoration	Letter	Exclusion								Death	Superintendent			Supt.'s P. O.
FIRST DISTRICT																						
Antioch	Bibb	J. M. Langston	Z. J. Corley	Randolph	195	2			18	8		171	4	5.00	1.00	3.00	84.50	J. D. Langston	Six Mile	7	45	
Enon	Bibb	J. M. Langston	F. M. Arnold	Six Mile	62				1		1	60	2	1.25								
Macedonia	Chilton	W. G. Riggins	J. D. Glass	Randolph	101	20	2		1		1	114	2	2.00				A. Glass	Randolph			
Mars Hill	Chilton	S. Smitherman	G. W. Gothard	Jemison	135	11	7		1		2	153	1	2.00				J. P. Gentry	Jemison		35	
Rehoboth	Bibb	S. Smitherman	M. F. Lawley	Randolph	117	14	4		4	2		136	2	2.50								
Shady Grove	Bibb	S. Smitherman	W. J. Payne	Randolph	131	2			5	1		134	3	1.50				J. Smitherman	Randolph		20	
Pleasant Grove	Chilton	L. B. Pounds	D. H. Hodgins	Randolph	118	5	2	1	14	1	2	109	4	1.30					Jemison		5	25
SECOND DISTRICT																						
Center Hill	Chilton	S. D. Posey	J. H. Wadell	Jemison	21	7	2					30	2	1.00			10.00	W. R. Dawson				
Collins Chapel	Chilton	W. A. Wood	Samuel Pate	Jemison	94	9			6			93		2.00				W. A. Mims	Jemison			
Liberty Hill	Chilton	A. L. Foshee	Felix Eiland	Strasburg	49		2	2	4	1	2	46	2	1.50								
Mineral Springs	Chilton	L. B. Pounds	Wm. Honeycutt	Jemison	55	13	4	3	2			67	3	1.00				I. N. Martin	Jemison		64	
New Salem	Chilton	J. G. Lowery	T. G. Williams	Strasburg	134	19			2	16	8	128	3	.75	.81			J. R. Cain	Strasburg	5	41	
Providence	Chilton	R. M. Honeycutt	W. H. Shaw	Clear Creek	138	9			9		3	135	3	3.00	1.25	7.00	36.00	W. H. Shaw	Clear Creek			
Pleasant Hill	Chilton	W. G. Riggins	S. E. Cleckler	Strasburg	29	10	1					40	3	1.00								
Strasburg	Chilton	W. G. Riggins	J. W. Moore	Strasburg	14				2			12		50								
Waxahatchie	Chilton																					
TOTAL					1393	121	31	8	82	22	11	1428		27.30	3.06	10.00	130.50				17	230